

A Productive 2015 with Over \$275 Million in Major Re-investments

The Springfield City Club has had a productive 2015 by bringing speakers describing their major economic projects that strongly indicate a renewed faith in the value, viability, and productivity of our community for local and national firms...to the tune of over \$275 million in re-investment. Two industrial firms, a medical firm and a retail developer are voting 'Yes' on long-term 'confidence in Springfield' with these major re-investments in local facilities and local employees:

- In July 2014, a devastating mill fire completely destroyed a recently upgraded plywood lumber mill and idled 250 employees. After months evaluating alternatives, **Swanson Lumber Group** announced an upgraded automated veneer peeling/ plywood layup operation that doubled its investment to roughly \$50 million in Springfield. Targeting a November 2016 re-opening, Swanson will pay its 190 employees, on average, compensation exceeding 150 percent of the Lane County average annual wage of \$58,530.
- **International Paper's** investing \$101.6 million in equipment upgrades to its paper mill operations by the end of 2016, while is maintaining its 279 employees at two sites in Springfield, and employing about 400 additional contractors. IP's decision to replace two nearly 40-year-old nonfunctional but key components allows the plant to continue operations, increase efficiency, and maintain quality for critical world markets. These Springfield upgrades greatly enhance the long-term viability of this Springfield plant.
- **McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center's** \$80 million in major additions and renovations to its hospital facilities in Springfield's Mohawk area are now underway with completion in 2018. This adds about 156,000 square feet of space,

MEETING CALENDAR

March 17, 2016

Ballot measure 82: a proposed 2.5 percent gross receipts tax on businesses over \$110 million

April 7, 2016

Police Chief Tim Doney: Impact of legalized marijuana on Springfield

April 21 and May 5, 2016

Candidates for Mayor and contested Springfield council seats

May 19, 2016

Kari Westlund of Travel Lane County: Sports facility, convention facility and room tax

June 2, 2016

Rep. Peter DeFazio

PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change

Springfield City Council

March 7 Regular Session (7:00)

Public Hearing: Unlawful Transfer

Public Hearing: Supplemental Budget

March 14 Work Session (5:30)

Fees and Charges Update

Fiscal Health Discussion

March 21 Work Session (6:00)

Main Street Project Report

Regular Session (7:00)

Public Hearing Fees and Charges

Public Hearing Recreational Marijuana

March 28 Work Session (5:30)

LRAPA Presentation

Main Street Speed Study

Lane County Commissioners

March 8, (9:00)

Climate Change Policies Report

March 15 (9:00)

Public Hearing: Supplemental Budget

March 22 (no meeting)

March 29 (9:00)

Lane Transit District

March 16 (5:30)

Willamalane Park and Recreation District

March 9 (6:30)

School District 19

March 14 (7:00)

renovates existing structures, allows each patient a private room, and provides private exam and trauma rooms in the Emergency Room, a new entrance/lobby, a neonatal intensive care unit, and expanded units for surgical, cardiovascular and pain treatment. In addition to McKenzie-Willamette's internal changes, it is among the largest of 38 hospitals **Community Health Systems** spun off into a new publicly traded hospital company called **Quorum Health Corporation**.

- The **Rouse Corporation** purchased 30 malls around the US to remake them to meet changing/expanding commercial markets and to re-invigorate activities over the next 18 months. Among the largest makeovers underway at over \$45 million, the **Shoppes at Gateway** (formerly the **Gateway Mall**) shifts the primarily indoor mall to a 'power center' with access to merchants directly from the parking areas, though overall net tenant space and parking areas remain the same. The strategy substantially changes the merchant mix to include those that would be the 'first in' our market area. The proposed changes include new restaurants (Panera, Firehouse Subs, Noodles & Company) and retailers (Hobby Lobby, Ulta Beauty, Marshalls, Rack Room Shoes, Petco) and an expanded Cabela's), site improvements, including safer bike routing and pedestrian covered connection to the LTD transit along Gateway.

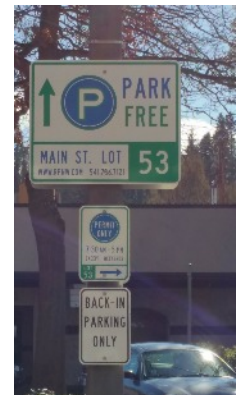
MEETINGS

Everything You Wanted to Know About Downtown Parking, but were Afraid to Ask

For several years the City of Springfield had no effective parking enforcement downtown. Signs were inconsistent, and the lack of enforcement often meant parking spaces in front of retail business were filled all day long by downtown employees. As a result of surveys done in 2013, the City designed a parking strategy for downtown Signs went up in 2014, and last summer enforcement began.

Courtney Griesel, economic development staff for the City, briefed city Club members on the history and the new program on February 4.

The downtown area is divided into three zones. Zone A, the area surrounding Main Street allows two hour free on-street parking. Zone B, which surrounds zone A, allows for three-hour free on-street parking. Zone C, which surround Zone B, and includes the Washburne area, has no restrictions. Those who park for more than the limited time have two alternatives to getting a parking ticket (which currently costs \$16). The first is the traditional parking shuffle – you move your car at least one block every two or three hours. The easier alternative was to purchase a parking permit (\$30 a quarter for the core of Zone A; \$13 for the Edges of Zone A, and \$10 for Zone B. Courtney emphasized the “was,” since the city has sold out of available permits. They City does not oversell permits, Ms. Griesel said. “If we have 14 spaces, we will sell only 13 permits.



Republic Parking serves as the enforcement agent for the city. So far, enforcement records are limited. The 2013 survey documented an average of 160 vehicles a day parking in Zones A and B. Since tickets were first issued in August, Republic has issued about 210 a month. Republic does get complaints from some of those ticked, and, on average, voids 75.

There are two downtown lots which allow free parking downtown, both in the A Zone. Those lots are the library lot, and the lot between the emerald Art Center and the Springfield Museum. The latter lot seems to have a high number of violations, and signage is being changed to help reduce violations. That lot requires back in diagonal parking. MS. Griesel said that back-in parking helps us manage circulation of vehicles through the free 3-hour parking area more effectively and in a safer fashion. It moves the visitors into the 3-hour area first in an effort to try and keep them from accidentally parking in the permit only area. Additionally, back-in parking is safer than head-in parking as it places the driver in a position to see clearly the drive isle and public/pedestrian realm when exiting their parking spot. No more small children walking behind cars.

Ms. Griesel emphasized that the program is still young and developing. She said that results to date indicate there is a demand and need for more parking, but that more surface parking will be difficult in (Continued on page 3)



downtown. She suggested that a future parking structure seems the most likely alternative, although there are, at the moment no designs or source of funding for a structure.

McKenzie Willamette Medical Center Expands



Chad Campbell, the Chief Executive Officer, is clearly excited about the massive expansion of the McKenzie Willamette Medical Center now underway in the Mohawk section of Springfield.

He is also excited about the honors that have come the hospital's way in the recent past. McKenzie Willamette is one of only 117 of 3,000 hospitals in the nation to receive the top performer award given by the Joint Commission, a non-profit organization which accredits and certifies almost 21,000 health care organizations in the United States. They are also one of only 26 health care institutions in the nation to receive a Gold seal of

approval for wound care, and the only one in the Pacific Northwest. The hospital also continues to meet its goal of providing emergency care within 30 minutes of a patient being seen for triage. Last year, the average was 27 minutes. These awards come before the hospital adds 156,000 square feet of space and remodels over 56,000 square feet. The multi-year renovation of the hospital is now underway, and will continue until sometime in 2018. The first project to be completed will be the construction of a new central plant to meet the power, heating and cooling and other needs of the new facility. That plant, now being constructed in the old parking lot, will be completed later this year. A new patient care tower will begin construction in the summer, and be complete in 2017.

Finally, the emergency facility will be expanded with a scheduled completion date of 2018. During the work, the hospital has established a valet parking area with a free shuttle circulating to the principal entry points so that patients and family do not have to negotiate traffic tie ups and long walks.



When completed, the patient care area will have the vast majority of its rooms as

single patient rooms. The number of operating rooms will increase from seven to 10 and the emergency room footprint will double.



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Springfield City Club
Board of Directors Meeting February 2, 2016

Board Members Present: Mike Eyster, Kay Hyde-Patton, Len Goodwin, Merlyn Hough, Terry Beyer, Steve Moe, Michelle Bixler, John Tamulonis, and Chris Kline

Board Members Absent: Jeff Thompson

Others Present: Dan Egan and Carolyn Miller

1. 11:35 Meeting was called to order by Mike Eyster
2. Dan Egan summarized the first day of the short session in Salem
3. Minutes from the January 5, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Len Goodwin moved to accept, Michelle Bixler 2nd, all approved.
4. Board Reports
 - e. Financial: John Tamulonis reports that there is no merchant fee issue. A balance sheet, membership dues sheet (on the opposite side of the balance sheet), and a 'lunches per program' sheet for the last 6 months were provided to all present. Referring to the balance sheet: assets are up because of the recent influx of membership dues and January was positive. Referring to the 'lunches per program' sheet: City Club pays \$9.00/lunch and sells lunches at either \$11 or \$13 to members (depending on whether they pre-register online), or \$22 to non-members. Generally lunch sales are positive; one program saw 22 lunches sold, another saw 21 sold, the other programs all sold 20 or less. Len Goodwin stated that the goal is to get 20-25 people to each program.
 - f. Membership: Chris Kline reports that there are 48 City Club members and some of them have yet to pay their dues for the year. Referring to the membership dues sheet: only dues received in December 2015 and January 2016 are shown; some members paid their dues before then. Chris will talk to Denise about getting a complete list of members. Membership will be the focus of the next board meeting.
 - g. Programs: Past programs and their speakers were discussed:

Month	1st Program	2nd Program
July 2015	Oregon Forest Research Institute	Legislators
August 2015	Friends of Trees	Dan Egan/Wildish
September 2015	Disaster preparedness	Springfield schools
October 2015	D.A. Patty Perlow	Vonnie/Chamber
November 2015	Shoppes at Gateway/Skip	Lane County Performance Audit
December 2015	Minimum wage	
January 2015	Legislative update	Mayor

Michelle Bixler suggested asking speakers to invite their own followers to the programs, 'interested parties' list (unsure of meaning of this – DH), provide information packets/a jpeg. Len Goodwin pointed out the need to make sure that this is all done on time. Dan Egan suggested having 2 speakers per program. February 4th's program speaker will be Courtney from City of Springfield presenting the topic of parking. There are leads and options for February 18th's program, but nothing has been verified at this time. Forest Products is scheduled for one of the March programs.

8. Newsletter: John Tamulonis will be writing the article for the March newsletter.
9. Upcoming vacancy: Kay Hyde-Patton asked that everyone keep potential new board members in mind.
10. KLCC Broadcast: Michelle Bixler reported that someone needs to view the space before things can move forward.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20

*Minutes typed by Dacoda Hulse at The Washburne Café from notes taken by Kay Hyde-Patton